

THE  
Case is Altered.  
How?

*Aske Dalio, and Mills.*



LONDON

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# TO MY VERY

kinde and approoued friende, D. R. F. R.  
*wisheth a' comforts that Fortune in her best Cases  
bestoweth on the kindest Natures, and a further  
ioy in the heart, than Fortune hath in  
her handes.*



Yr, your long Experience in the  
varietie of Cases, hath made me  
send you these fewe merry, pittiful  
Cases : In which, if your lei-  
sure be to reade, your iudgement  
is sufficient to discerne the cause  
of their gathering together, and  
setting down as you see : the best is, they are no such  
vnreasonable Cases, but they may be pleaded, with  
pleasure, in the priuate conference of conceit and  
patience : Some are longer then other, all are free  
from the thought of malice : But, lest I speake any  
thing in their praises, knowing nothing worth any  
thing, I will leaue them to your kindnes to consider  
of, and my loue to your farther commaundement.  
And so, fearing, lest through want of meanes to ex-  
presse my affection, I should, in the suspicion of ob-

*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

liuion, bury the great heape of your vnderferved fauours, intreating your patient acceptation of this, till a better be made readie: in a pittifull Case of discontentment, that I haue not a better present for your kindnes: wishing your worthines, the comfort of all happines, I rest in the midst of al my Cases, and in what Case soeuer: to my vttermost power.

*Yours, as mine owne.*

F. T.







*To the Reader.*



Entle Reader, I pray God, I do not flatter you, for if you should proue either vnwise, or vnkinde, I should call in my Title: So it is, that hauing nothing to do, I set my selfe on work about a litle better matter, to write downe certain Cases neuer pleaded, but on-ly discoursed vpon, by a couple of idle people; the matters handled, are of no great moment, & therfore scarce worth the reading: but yet, if you peruse them all ouer, no doubt but some of them wil please you: if any of them do otherwise, I am sory, I knowe not your humour: but if you finde your selfe touched with any euil, rather mend the fault in your selfe, then finde fault with me. In brief, I only write vpon Cases, neither kniue Cases, Pinne-Cases, nor Candle Cases, but onely a fewe merry pittiful Cases: In which if I haue lost time, I am sory for my labour;  
If

*To the Reader.*

If I haue lost my labour, I am sory for my time; but, if I haue gained your good will, all is not lost: and I thanke you; but, because I know not where to come to you to tell you so, I leaue you to reade and like what you list, and to thinke of me as you haue cause, and so in good will, I rest.

*Your friend, F. T.*





# The Case is altered: How?

Aske *Dalio* and *Millo*.

DALIO.



MILLO, Good morrow.

Millo. And a thousand to thee, honest  
Dalio: but whither plod you so sadly?

Dal. I was walking towardes your  
house, and finding your wife abroad, I  
hop'd y<sup>e</sup> better to haue you quiet at home.

Mil. You say well: Is it not a pittifull  
Case, that a mans house that should be  
his castle, and his wife his comfort, should through the unqui-  
etnesse of her indiscretion, become moze terrible to him then  
a towne of *Warre*?

Dal. I must confesse it is too true, I haue pittied you often,  
but could neuer doe you good: and he that could iudge what I  
see and you seele, would confesse it were a pittifull Case indeed;  
God helpe you.

Mil. I thanke you, so; I thinke that the noyse of a volley  
of shot, is not comparable to the roaring mouth of an unquiet  
woman: which since it will not be mended, it must be borne,  
& so forth. But I pray you tel me, how doth your eldest sonne?  
followeth he his olde courses? will no good counsell bring him  
home againe?

Dal. Oh, no Neighbour: I may sigh to heare men say,  
that yonder is an honest man, yet hath a sonne able to breake  
the heart of his father: Oh, it is a pittifull Case, that a man

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Should care and care all the dayes of his life, to lay by wealth for a wicked sonne that shall spend it before he were ready to part with it: and ere he could leane to be a childe he sicke of the father, make matches vpon his death, be glad of his sicknesse, and feare his recovery: continuing in an euill course, scorne to be reformed, till having escaped the Lawe, he growes so shamelesse in his life, that he be leathed of all good company, become an eye sore to his friends: & a gaul to his fathers heart: Wher, neither the wor of want, the shame of punishment, the feare of God, nor the loue of a father can perswade him to good: Is it not a pittifull Case, to see him so past grace, that there is no hope of amendment: and yet nature is of such force, that a man cannot hate his owne childe: wh it shall I say to it?

Dal. Why, as you sayd to me, let me say to you, a pittifull Case, a pittifull Case, for tis no lesse: A scolding wife, and a stubborne childe, are two pittifull Cases for patience to plead in. But what is become of my neighbours Vinos daughter?

Mil. Alas the day, there is a pittifull Case indeed, if you speake of a Case to be pittied. A yong wench, a faire wench, a fine wench, a pretty wench, a sweet wench a gallant wench, a proper wench, a wise wench, an honest wench, a kinde wench, a good wench, that could speake well, and daunce well, and sing well, and play well, & worke well, and do enery thing well, to be cast away: I say cast away: yea utterly cast away, vpon a Dobby, & Dunny-hammer, & Dame goose a Wladerocke, a Peacoeke, a D. woecke that loues nothing but fatte meate, and can speake nothing but Pudding, & yet put vp in gay cleaths, must stand in stead of a better man, to be the vndoing of such a perlesse woman, & all for a little trash: Oh wicked men, to be the Actor of such a mischiet: is not this a pittifull Case?

Dal. It is: and my heart (were not wishing in vaine) I could become her a better match: for to see a Diamonde buried in Sea-coale ashes, it is pittie it deserves a better soyle: & in truth had I such a daughter, she should spin: I would rake, and we would make thread for a lining, before I would bring her to her death by such a miserie.

Mil. You say well, & so I thinke should I: but tis a pittifull Case, and so let it be: And since we are entred into these matters,

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ters let me aske you a question. I pray you what heare you of your Nephew, and his marriage?

Dal. You do wel to put me in mind of him, for in troth I pittie him: a yong man, a handsome man, a wise man, an honest mā, a kinde man, & a carefull man, giuen to thirte, like to do well, comming on well in y<sup>e</sup> worlde; to bestow the prime of his years, the hope of his fortune, and the fruite of his traualle, vpon the figure of defozantie, the discomfyt of continuance, the crosse of pleasure, & the nursery of time, & all for a little cankered reyne, which may hap to be shoyt of his reckoning. & he may leaue ere he be aware: would it not fret a man to thinke on it? grieues a man to see it? & pittie him, that he cannot helpe it? when his youth is drownd in her age, his wit in her wilfulnes, his learning, in her lacke of vnderstanding, and his worthinesse, in her wretchednesse. Is not this a pittifull Case?

Al. Oh yes, a pittifull Case, a pittifull Case indeed: and for my self, had I such a sonne, I would make him plough and I would sow, & we would both labour for bread, ere he should scalt with such a morsell. But to goe on with you a little, I pray you how doth my Cousen Sindo, with his bargain?

Dal. You say well, for there is a Case pittifull enough, I think: oh poore man, he is vndone: why, his flocke of mery ke put into a flocke of sheepe, & hauing them warranted good and sound, takes a pasture for them, which hath bene tainted with sick cattel, & there findes the day by day fall into diseases, that what with y<sup>e</sup> Rot, the Scab, the flic, the worme, the Cough, & I know not what, in a little time, the fold comes into a little rone, & the flocks so sicke from the flics, that the curkelles will not be worth the taking vp: when, what with the fere and the Wolfe, the carelesse, or the crafty shepheard, & the tainted ground, or the infect our aire, the flocks comes to to paye a reckoning, y<sup>e</sup> repentance may sit alone & say nothing, and for lacke of sheepe of his owne goe play the sheeps head, or the shepheards with another: to see an honest man in good credite of his neighbours, carefull of his estate, toying for his lining, should either through want of skill, or the cruelty of fortune, come into such decay, y<sup>e</sup> being able to lend either in their necessities, shuld not now haue either credit or comfort in his misery:

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Wh is it not a pittifull Case, that man, who should be as a God vnto man, should become such a diuell vnto man?

Mill. It is true, the diuell at the first crept into the eare of a woman, to deceiue man, and I thinke he hath of late so crept into the heart of man to deceiue one an other, and themselues most of all, that the monstrous minds of these daies doe so deceiue and abuse the simple hearts of honest soules, that we may say it is a pittifull Case, to see what the diuel can doe among men: but let this passe: and let me aske you a question.

Dal. With all my heart, and as I can I wil kindly answer you: then say this: When a rich man dies, and owes a great deale of money, to a number of poore men, and women, many of them take his word, and haue no writings, he dies and makes his will, giues what he hath, to whom he list, but hath no mind of his debts, though he haue set downe all his debtors, and so with a conscience woold wide goes to hel with the diuel: leaving poore men to begge, that cannot come by their money: when the labourer, the widowe, and the fatherlesse, come wringing to the doore for the payment of a poore reckoning, and with a cheeke or a taunt, either deferred for a litle, or with nothing but a rebuke sent away: while the Executors come out puffing after a banquet, the heire come prouiding after new apparell, the sister pycking, as towards the hope of a gallant husband, and the guests with curtisies, and I thanke you for my good cheere going home, the poore wretch, with a cold comfort, must walke away with a poore pittance, breaking his hart with the sighes of his soule to see the misery of his fortune, Is not this a pittifull case?

Mill. It is a most pittifull Case, but who can helpe it when mens hearts are so shut vp in their purses, that money comes from them like their heart blood: and with wicked consciences rather die intebted to many, to enrich their posterity, then leane order for the payment of their debtors, euen out of their superfluitie: but I hope, there are not many such: But to goe along with you, let me tell you, which I thinke you haue not heard of, a pittifull Case indeede: I thinke as we haue yet spoken of, the ouerthrow of Sig. Penirros case.

Dal.

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Dal. It is the first time that I heard of the manner of it, but of his decaye I haue heard, and soeie to heare of it, and therefore, I pray you let me heare you deliuer as I know you will, the truth of it.

Mill. I will: and thus it was. The Gentleman, as you know, a proper man, well carried, well qualified, and well disposed, deeply read, and soundly studied, one whom his friends had good hope of, and many men of great wisdom did conuerse withall for his iudgement, in the midst of all expectation of his fortune and well doing in the world, falls into acquaintance and too much affection, with a Scholler that hath more learning then honesty, who to gaine a little wealth, cared not whom he brought to beggerie, and fell so farre into an overworking of his wits, and giuing such an applause to his reasons, that for the spending of a little mony, he should growe into a mountaine of golde, and so long ledde through soles paradise with hopes of strange working in natures, that euery day impairing his estate, by the defraying the charge of his expence, perswading him to make golde of drosse, he found nothing in the end, but to bring indeed golde to drosse, for when his land was sold for mony, his mony went for coales, glasses, bricke, and bellowses, and I know not how many necessities, as he was perswaded to be at charge with, for the making golde by the Admirable Science of Alcanist: when this glasse was broken, and that fire was out, and this and that must be renewed, and I know not what must be laid out, till there were nothing to lay in, when the poore gentleman saw himselfe thus mocked with imagination, and cosened by illusions, that he found Alcanist, to be Alghenist: which is, All mist: amazed to find himselfe All hid in a miste, where through want of a cleare sight, he grew so blinde, that he could neuer see a pennie in his purse: Wh, how it strooke him to the heart to see the wofull fruite of his wilfull folly: beleue me careles in a manner, either of himselfe, or what might befall him, he fell to such a melancholy humour, as with inward sorrow, sighing, and sobbing, desirous alwaies to be solitarie, and out of companie, fell at last into a consumption,

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tion, and so as a dead man upon the earth, walkeſt vp and doſt downe as you ſee. And is not this a moſt pittifull Caſe, to ſee a proper man, a handſome man, an honeſt man, a wiſe man, a learned man, and a rich man made ſuch a ſtale, ſuch an aſſe, and ſuch a monie, to vndo himſelfe, to ſell all he hath and with ſorrow to weare himſelfe to the bones, for a hope of wooders out of the wit of a villaine, that only ſtudied Philoſophy, to be a ſole oſo ſic? Belæue me, in mine opinion it is a pittifull Caſe.

Dal. It was indeed: and is a moſt pittifull Caſe, to ſee how many are ſo conſounded in the world, by imagination of miraculous couries in nature: but let them burne that will needes leape into the fire: in one ſenſe, I meane, in Charitie I could pittie their miſery, but truly I cannot but laugh at there folly, that, in ſo ſeking to make gold of leade, put them ſelues cleane out of ſiluer. But let vs leaue theſe long Caſes: and in byele anſwere me to ſuch Caſes, as I will put you.

Mill. As I can, I will.

Dal. Well then, firſt tel me your opinion in this: Is it not a pittifull Caſe, to ſee a proper man without mony?

Mill. It is.

Dal. And to ſee a faire woman without wit?

Mill. No leſſe.

Dal. And an old man lecherous?

Mill. Alas poore man.

Dal. And a yong man vitious?

Mill. He will be ſped.

Dal. And a rich man couetous.

Mill. Was pittie that he hath ſo much.

Dal. And a whoze vndoe an honeſt man?

Mill. Fie vpon her, there are too many of them.

Dal. And a ſole in Anthozitie?

Mill. Woe be to that government.

Dal. And a begger an hoſebacke?

Mill. Let him ride like a ſcaſall.

Dal.



## The Case is altered.

Dal. And a gentleman on foote?

Mill. I would he had my horse.

Dal. And a Son by kisse a woman?

Mill. It saoured beehin.

Dal. And a dogge bite a man?

Mill. Hang him Curre.

Dal. And a Horse kill his Rider?

Mill. Heauy fortune.

Dal. And a Henne Crow-trode?

Mill. Cut her throat.

Dal. And a fere kill a Lambe?

Mill. Set dogges vpon him.

Dal. And a woman beat her husband?

Mill. Let his neighbour ride.

Dal. And a poyre man arrested?

Mill. God helpe him.

Dal. And a villaine riche?

Mill. Beware a mischiefe.

Dal. And a Louer deceiued?

Mill. Too common.

Dal. And a deceiver, beloued?

Mill. Oh pittifull!

Dal. And a good tale ill told?

Mill. Lacke of wit.

Dal. And a lie catched?

Mill. He on flattery.

Dal. And loue abused?

Mill. Ill nature.

Dal. And abuse fauoured?

Mill. Ill iudgement.

Dal. And warre threaten'd?

Mill. 'Tis dang'rous.

Dal. And peace thwarted?

Mill. 'Tis impious.

Dal.

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Dal. And a Souldier begge?

Mil. It is grieuous.

Dal. And a Pudding burne?

Mil. No, it skils not: 'Tis a thing of nothing.

Dal. And a Goose goe bare-sote?

Mil. It is naturall.

Dal. And a woman weepe?

Mil. It is ordinary.

Dal. And an Ass loaded?

Mil. Hee serues for it.

Dal. And an Ape cloathed?

Mil. 'Tis the Bearwards gaine.

Dal. And a Grey-hound spurned?

Mil. A churlish nature.

Dal. And a Galliffe stroked?

Mil. The Clownes icwell.

Dal. And a Tree fruitlesse?

Mil. Cut it downe.

Dal. And a friend faithlesse?

Mil. Trust him not.

Dal. And a worke-man lazies?

Mil. Pay him not.

Dal. And a seruant idle?

Mil. Keep him not.

Dal. And a Wife gracelesse?

Mil. Loose her not.

Dal. You answer byie sig, but not directly to my propositions: I aske you if al these be not pittifull Cases?

Mil. No: some are, and some are not.

Dal. Which are not?

Mil. Why a bare-sote Goose, for she can weare no Shoes, but she would leane them in the water: and a weeping woman when she cryeth for curd heart: and a bearing Ass, for hee is good for nothing els: & an Ape in his coate, for he makes sport for soles. These and a number moore of this nature. I thinke neede not greatly to be pittied: for others, you may iudge my minde

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minde by mine answers.

Dal. You say well; & yet let the Cole alone to feed with the Gander: but to the woman, I thinke when she weepes she cryes not, and then a kinde heart will pittie her: and to loade an Asse too much may breake his backe: and to cloathe an Ape too richly, is cost ill bestowed: and therefore some way there is, none of these things but are to be pittied.

Mil. I holde with you; but let vs leaue this short chopping of Cases, & a little speake of a Case too pittifull to be spoken of if it could be helped. Say, that I should marry your daughter, being a widow, and being possessed of pretty lands of her owne inheritance, by her mother (who you lately buried) and having liued with my said wife some selue yeares, in loue and kindesse, till she be forced to walke the way of all flesh, and then she hauing a daughter, heire to her sayde lands, liuing with some of her friends farre frō her; I knowing this daughter true heire to these lands, do against my conscience, passe away this land vnto a man of wealth, who if it ever come in question, can follow the Law with a good Purse: the Heire comes to claime her right: I am dead; he that hath bought it keepes her from it, and the Lawe findes meanes to keepe her from it: Is not this a pittifull Case?

Dal. Yes, and pittie but it should be better pleaded, that the Heire might haue her right, and the oppressor either be punished, or put to pay for it.

Mil. Well sayd, then let me tell you this: If a Rogue cut a Purse, and put it in my pocket, I be demaunded the Purse, and knowing my selfe cleare from the thought of such a villanie, do in suite deny it, & presently searched the Purse is found about me, & I apprehended for the felo, except the thief come to cleare me, am like to hang for it: Is not this a pittifull Case?

Dal. Oh Lord, who would not thinke so. And to answere you, if a filthy whoze be gotten with childe by a rascall knaue, & be counsailed by her companions to lay the Sackard vpon me, if she will swear though she so swears it to be mine, I must be at the charge of keeping of it, and suffer I know not

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What trouble for it, to my great discredit, and almost undoing: Is not this a pittifull Case?

Dal. Yes in truth, and grievous: but to quite you. Say that you are a poore man, and simply honest; I like a Gallant come riding on the high way, upon a horse that I haue stolne but a little before, and am pursued for: I seeme to light to vntruste a poynr, and knowing the Countrey, deliuer you my horse to leade on a little on the way, and giue you a small peece of money for your paines, promising to come presently backe vnto you: when I wake away through a Wood to a Ferry, and so shift away and leaue you; you are taken with the horse, & if the Countrey be not the better vnto you, you must hang for your kindnesse: Is not this a pittifull Case?

Mil. A miserable Case: but leaning hanging Cases, let me aske your opinion touching some fewe Cases, that come suddenly into my minde.

Dal. With all my heart, and I will deliuer you my iudgement, what I thinke of them.

Mil. Then say this. To giue white-bread to a dogge, and bholne to a man: Is it not a pittifull Case?

Dal. It is, and it is not. Mil. How so?

Dal. It is pittifull in respect of y<sup>e</sup> bread, that was obtained rather for me than dogge; but of the gift no pittie: for it is better to make much of a profitable dog, then an vnprofitable man.

Mil. Well then, is it not pittie to see a wise man poore, and a foole rich?

Dal. It is, and it is not. Mil. As how?

Dal. It is pittie that wisepome should want, but wealth will corrupt a good wit, and a wise man may liue by his wits, while a foole may begge if he want money.

Mil. Well sayd: but is it not pittie to see good meat ill dressed?

Dal. No, for if it were well dressed, it might cause surfeiting by too much pleasing the taste, where now a little well digested may doe nature no hurt: but yet in respect of the meat it is pittie: so that in a priuate dish it is not well, but in a publique Feast, it is no great matter.

Mil.

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Mil. Well say, but to see an honest quiet man matched with a scold?

Dal. It is, and it is not: for though in respect of his better desert, it is a pittie, yet in regard it is an exercise of his patience, it is profitable, and so no pittie.

Mil. But to see a carefull maister matched with a careless servant, is it not to be pittied?

Dal. I say as I sayd, it is, and it is not: for though in respect of his hinderance it is a pittie, yet for that it will keepe him from lazines, in having a carefull eye ouer all his businesse, it is good for him, and so not pittifull.

Mil. Well sayd: but to see a fine wench in ragges, and an ill-fauoured Slut well cloathed, is it not a pittie?

Dal. I say as I did still, it is and it is not; the Wench better deserues it: but in respect her beauty with a little vertue wil get a better master, then cloathing without wealth, it is no pittie: & since it is easie to consider, that the Croanes cloathing is al her countenance, & without the which she may goe cry kitchin-Ruffe for her comfort: it is pittie but she should haue something to helpe, that is worse than nothing: and the wench being vertuous in her pouerty, might perhaps be ticked if she were wealthy, and so (as I sayd) it is, and it is not pittie.

Mil. Well then, what say you to this: Is not the weake of a ship, a pittifull sight?

Dal. It is so one way, & it is not another: for in respect of the common-wealths losse, that might haue made good vse of that she brought it was a pittie: yet in respect y<sup>e</sup> it was a meane to humble the proud spirit of him y<sup>e</sup> ought it, it is not pittifull.

Mil. You speake to some purpose: but yet I do, & not allow of your opinion in many points: but for that we come rather to talke of Cases, then to fall out about Cases, let your opinion stand firme, for it is not much amisse: & let me tell you of a pittifull Case that befell of late in a little Village, about a mile from my house.

Dal. Come on: and ten to one, but if my memory sake me not, I shall requite you with another woorth the hearing.

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Mill. Then heare me, thus it was. An old woman, a very old woman, a crooked old woman, a crooping old woman, a lame woman, a deafe woman, a miserable woman, a wretched woman, a wicked woman, fell with halfe a sight (so: shortly after she fell blind) in loue with a pretty, neate nimble, spruce, lively, handsome, & in truth, lonely young man, and so faire, as after the manner of the country people, she would if she met him in a morning bid him good morrow, with how doe you sonne? I praie you come nere, if it were nere her house, and I praie you sit downe, and I pray you drinke, and how both your good father, and your mother, and all your house: In troath, you are welcome, I am lozie I haue no good chere for you, but such as I haue I pray you doe not spaire, if I haue any thing in my house, it is at your commande: In deede, I euer loued you of a child, and if I had a daughter I would giue her with all I haue to you, that I would, I truly would I: but and you could make much of an old woman, it may be, I haue some old Rurdoches that saw no day these twenty winters and ten, that may make a young man merry: yea, and perhaps make you lue by their noses that holde their heads full high. And thus, with the ring of him all her wealth, which she consiured him to keepe secret, & giuing a piece of gold or two with him. She made him doe, yea many bid he, that which his conscience had no comfort in, and he found no good of: for hauing robbed her cupboard of a great deale a come only bearing her in hand to be her Ass-band, and for a little illfauoured kindnesse, it fell out that shortly after, he falling in loue with a neighbours daughter, a wench worthy the looking on. When all parties were agreed, the matter was made vp, hands were ioyned, hearts were ioyfull, the Banns were asked, the Bride and Groome were married, the guests were bidden, the dinner was ready, the minstrells plaid, the youth danced and the old soles laught, and the day was well past, and nothing longd for but night, and then the supper done, the guests departed, then curtesie and I thanke you, the Rich had their bellies full, and the beggers had their pockets full, and the house was at quiet, the

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doyes were shut, the fire and candel put out, the bed made softe, and the sheets white washed, and the pillows sprinkled with rose water, and all things in order, for the comfort of these young couple: the old woman that grew mad at this match, though she durst not forbid the nuptials, being at the church, and hearing of diuerse saying God giue you ioy; fell to mumbling to her selfe, and some sorrow too when she wrought with her Inchantment, I know not, but, the young people might kill, while she might sigh, and be fret, but there was no further matter to be performed: and this continued some two yeares, till she in loue and modesty, concealing her miserie, & he seeking all meanes he could for his comfort, and finding none, met by chance with this old woman, and in a mistrust that shee had done him some villanie with her ill tongue, fell vpon her, and throwing her downe, strode vpon her, & did beate her, till he left her for dead: and indeed she neuer ate bread after, for going home to her house, belike going about some other hellishnes, her Crutch slipping, she fell ouer the threshold, and broke her neck: when the young man came home and talked so kindly with his wife, that within fortie weekes after she brought him a goodly boy: And is not this a pittifull Case, that a man should so long be tormented by the wicked tongue of a woman?

*Dal.* A woman, you would say the shape of a woman, for a witch is but a diuell Incarnate: it is pittie that any of them are suffered to liue. But to requite you: not many miles from the town where I dwell, there was an old man, a filthy old man, a coughing, sneeuelling, black-eyed wry mouthed, bottle-nosed, lame legged, palsie handed, stumpe footed, wry bodied, gagge tothed, stammering tongue, foh. stinking breathed, who walked but vpon crutches, read but with spectacles, and spake with a whining, nodding, or a noddy head, this ongly obiect, or rather abiect of nature, the sorrow of routhes eie sight, the dispoist of time, the hate of loue, and the laniuation of hope, such a man as is not in the world to be seene, by very ill fortune, vpon a faire day changed to mate with a Tenants daughter of his, whom hauing well victwed, as his dumme sight would giue him leaue,

## The Case is altered.

giving a nodde to her curtlesse, sent the next day fo; her to his house, but the wench the day befoze having so much of his sight, that she desired neuer to see him moze, with bitter teares sell at her fathers taste, and desired him to goe and know his pleasure, and make excuse fo; her, that she was not well, but the next day she would come to him: the poze man seeing his daughter change colour, did yelde to her request, put on his best shoes, & a cleane band, & being but a litle way to his house, through want of a horse went on foote, when, but a litle waye shod, with slipping into a ditch, he comes at last to the doze of this rich Clowne, who being head Bailiffe to the chiefe Lord of the manner, kept a house, the best thatched of all his neighbours in the parish, there being saluted, by a couple of fowle currees, not much unlike their old master, being of his old acquaintance, shewed him but their teeth, & then wagging their tailes, did him no harme, but let him there stay til this Chaps, the old mezil, hearing his dogges, and knowing their voices, came out to heare whom they talked to, and there seeing this poze man, stand cappe in hand, setting himselfe downe vpon a bench, after a horse cough, and a spalling spet o; two, begins to aske him fo; his daughter, whose excuse being made, he falls aboord with him fo; her, to haue her fo; his seruant: which, he answering with an excuse, that it could not be, fo; she had taken earnest of a gentlewoman, to waite on her in her chamber: which he believing, answered that he would do moze fo; her then any gentlewoman of them all; fo; he had no children, and he would make her both his childe and his wife: and therefore she should take no care fo; service: the poze man glad of this message, went home merrily to his daughter, told her what good fo;une was towards her, fo; ioy sent fo; the other pot, & now thought to take no care fo; rent, when his child should be his Landlady: but the poze girle seeming to her father to be as ioyfull as he, when her father was gone to his daies worke in the moznir g, toke an old sacke, in which she put vp all her clouthes that she had, and away goes she to an Aunt she had ten miles of, and there with howling and crying, that her father ment to marrie her



## The Case is altered.

her to the diuel, intreated her to put her to seruice, & she had rather wash buckles all daies of her life, then be matched with such a monster: My Aunt, every body saies, that he kild his last wife with kindnes, and I thinke he would do as much with me.

My tis a venome man, as liues: and truly Aunt it is such an illfaoured man, and he hath such a breath, It is a beastly creature: besides the house that he dwells in, he hath but his life in, but if he had all the worlde, and as much god, as would lie in all your house, I would not haue him, I had rather begge my bread.

My Aunt seeing the honest heart of the poore wench, and knowing that she could set a seame together, and handle her needle prettily, so; a plaine hemme, & could tell how to eate a peece of meate, howeuer she could dress it, spake to a gentlewoman nere vnto her, to take her into her seruice, & ouer a bargain so; her wages, brought her to her, and placed her with her: where she behaued her selfe well, and was well thought on: and there I leave her. Now home comes her father, misseth his daughter, runnes to his Landlozd, thinking to finde her there: he miche thinks he is mockt, he calles out with his Tenant, warnes him out of his house, the poore man goes home weeping, his wife with her hands wringing, entertaines him with a scolding, railing vpon him, cursing her Landlozd, and swears she will haue her home, hang him dogge, he shall not be the death of her daughter, she will not dwel in his house, she will haue her child out of his house, or she will beate downe his doyes: and is as good as her word, the next morning with an open mouth goes to his doyes, where lo and beehold then both his Pastures, she maketh an outcry so; her child.

The man knowing her to be an unreasonable woman, entreats her to be quiet, swears by the crosse of his Crutch, that he knowes not whither she is gone: and with much adoe to pacifie her, gettes himselfe ridde of her: when comming home, and not finding her deare daughter,

## The Case is altered.

daughter, she falls into such an agony, that a horse would not abide it, when the poore man with griefe takes such thought, that he can eate no meat, and she weary & almost out of breath with scolding, goes to bed for anger: and the old man with sorrow to lose his love, and to see her parents misery, after a fit of the Stone, with a stitch of the Chollick, being griped at the heart, & fearing to leaue the world, sendes for his Tenant, forgives him his rent, & gives his house to his daughter if she be found againe: and so bestowing among the poore of the Parish, some little matter not worth the speaking of: having made all means he could, and by her parents good care and trauaile, sound out, and brought vnto him some houre before his death, gaue her in an olde soyle Handkerchiffe, that, which payde for more then the washing of two faire Smockes, and so causing the great Bell to be tolde, after a hollow hemme of two, euen for Loue, (because he could liue no longer, dyed. And is not this of a long Case? a pittifull Case?

Mil. Yes, if it were true, but surely tis a iest: there was neuer such a man, nor such a matter.

Dal. Well then, say it were a iest, was it not a pittifull iest?

Mil. If there were any pittie, it was in that he liued so long. But now after your long Case, let me come to you with a short Case. Is it not pittie to see a faire house without Inhabitants?

Dal. It is, and it is not.

Mil. How so?

Dal. It is in respect of good Hospitalitie a pittie: but rather then be either a denne of Thieves, or a Whorehouse of Whores, it were better stand voyd, and so it is no pittie.

Mil. Well then: but is it not a pittie to see a purse without money?

Dal. In respect of want it is: but rather then be filde with vnlawfull or vngodly gaires, it were better be emptie.

Mil. So: but is it not a pittie to see good clothes ill weorne?

Dal. It is, and it is not: in regard of the good clothes it is pittie, but in respect of the wearer it is not: for it is better to

## The Case is altered.

to be carelesse, then pzonde.

Dal. Well hemoyde. But is it not a pittie to see a mā blind?

Mil. Why? would you haue all so, y<sup>e</sup> one should not see an other? or how would you know blindness, if all had their sight?

Mil. Well, and is it not pittie to see a woman dumbe?

Dal. Oh! then the Market would be spoyld.

Mil. Is it not pittie to haue a Dogge deaffe?

Dal. Hang him for his skinnie.

Mil. Is it not pittie to see a Horse lame?

Dal. Keep him for a Stallion, or let him feed Hounds.

Mil. Or a Watke lacke a wing?

Dal. Pull off her head.

Mil. Or a Wolfe kill a Lambe?

Dal. Hunt him to death.

Mil. What say you to a straine in Haruest?

Dal. It will driue the Farmer to prayers, and the labourers to worke apace.

Mil. So then, I see your sullen humour will not be altered: yet, as too much pittie marres a whole Citie, so a dogged mind is too nere the diuell. But it may be, and so I gesse it, that you onely out of your humour, without spight at any thing, speake all that you do, and therefore I will entreat you a little farther to deliuer me your opinion, touching some other Cases.

Dal. I am for you.

Mil. Is it not pittie to see an Infant starved?

Dal. Hang the Nurse.

Mil. To see a Church robbed?

Dal. Strangle the thiefe.

Mil. To see a Christian become a Jew?

Dal. Put him to the fire.

Mil. To see a sonne kill his father?

Dal. Bury him quicke.

Mil. What say you to see a Clowne scape a Lay?

Dal. Harry him to a Whore.

Mil. To see a Witch kill a child?

Dal. Send her to the diuell.

Mil. Your answers are bitter.

D

Dal.

## The Case is altered.

Dal. The Cases are villainous.

Mil. Well, get what say you to ~~Sh~~herpe without a ~~Sh~~heep  
heard?

Dal. What are the ~~W~~olfe.

Mil. A hoise without a Rider?

Dal. What are his heeles.

Mil. A Doublet in drinke?

Dal. What are mischiefe.

Mil. A house of fire.

Dal. What are the whole Towns.

Mil. An honest man a Cuckold?

Dal. Ill Fortune.

Mil. And a faire wench wicked?

Dal. Weaknesse in Nature?

Mil. Or the penitent punished?

Dal. Tyrannie.

Mil. Or the wicked spared?

Dal. Oh! vile money.

Mil. Or the honest scorned?

Dal. Corruption of time.

Mil. Or a man womannish?

Dal. Showe the Case.

Mil. Or a woman tyrannous?

Dal. A furie.

Mil. Oh Dalio, thou art still one man: I thanks thee for  
thy plainnesse: but fearing that I trouble thee with too many  
Cases, let me heare some from you.

Dal. And shall I pray you what thinke you of this Case:  
What say you to a young wench Aspie?

Mil. What are her ~~W~~ayden-head.

Dal. To a cometous Lawyer?

Mil. What be to the Client.

Dal. To a flowerly Courtier?

Mil. Banish him the Presence.

Dal. To a dicing Merchant?

Mil. What are the Stocks.

Dal. What say you to a simple Decentuell?

Mil;

## The Case is altered.

Mil. ~~Ware the Campe,~~

Dal. ~~To a carelesse farmer?~~

Mil. ~~He will die a begger,~~

Dal. ~~To a lazie worke-man?~~

Mil. ~~A whippe, a whippe,~~

Dal. ~~To a counterfeit Cripple?~~

Mil. ~~An open punishment,~~

Dal. ~~To a faithlesse friend?~~

Mil. ~~Giue him the kname of Clubs for a Cognizance,~~

Dal. ~~To a malicious enemy?~~

Mil. ~~Ware Treason,~~

Dal. ~~To a smothe tongued quaker?~~

Mil. ~~Take heed of witchcraft,~~

Dal. ~~To a lying Rascall?~~

Mil. ~~Lose no time with him,~~

Dal. ~~To a desperate Villaine?~~

Mil. ~~Avoid his company,~~

Dal. ~~To a shamelesse woman?~~

Mil. ~~Let no man abide her,~~

Dal. Well said: but to go along with you a litle to answer you in one point: if I were bitter, you are not sweet: so much as I haue yet heard from you (I speake it not in dislike of you, but to be quitance with you) and therefore let me farther aske your opinion in this Case. I lend you money to do you good, and you game by it: and when I come at my day to demand it, you haue it, & will not pay it: another lends me money and I lose by it: at the day appointed, I would & cannot pay it: you are rich & will not pay, I am poore & cannot pay: yet you hold the reputation of an honest man, after many delayes, and I for one dayes breach am accounted contrary: Is this a pittifull Case or not?

Mil. In truth I thinke the Case is pittifull, that I should haue so much credite, and so little conscience: and you so good a conscience, and so ill a fortune.

Dal. You say right. Now farther let me put you another Case: Say, that I should lend you a sixeord, to beare for a day or two: you in a worke minde than I would wish

## The Case is altered.

you, fall by the high way upon a Purse, in his handes, that will not easily part with it, you fight with him, and kill him, and take away his money, and leaues the sword either sticking in him, or being pursued for the murder, by some mischance in riding or running, lose the sword, or let it fall, and in hast, running for life, will not light for the sword, but by your horses swiftnes, or what meanes I know not, get away without tuch, the sword is found, caried from Cutler to Cutler, till it be knowne who made it, and in the end being found out to who made it, and who bought it, I am shewd the sword, and cannot deeme it to be mine, if I cannot bring forth the thiefe, I must answer the Lawe, and hang for my kindnes: Is not this a pittifull Case?

Dal. Yes truly: in conscience this suspicion and presumption, are shewd points to condemnation: but though he that is boorne to be hangd will never be drowned till he be dead, yet we thinke it is a pittifull Case, to hang a true man for a theefe. And now let me put you an other Case: Say that I should, loving you as I doe, commit as I durst into your hand, all the stock of my money that I have, and you and I take a shop together, and sell our wares together, you hauing as God forbids you should, some wicked spirit of couetousnes entred into your ill conscience, watch a time, when I were out of wyes goe into my Counting-house, take all my money and writings, and at my returne, begin to thrust me out of wyes, picke some quarrell with me, bid me sake mine owne as I can, and so without pacification, resolved to play the villaine with me, drive me to sue by Lawe to recouer mine owne, while with commodity of my coine, you finde meanes to vse me as you list, and so long weary me with the suite, being not able to hold wage with you, that in the end I am forced either to leaue it, or to compound with you for a thing of nothing, and putting by all wrongs, be forced to make you an acquittance for all matters: to discharge you for all claimes to my bitter vndoing, and haue no remedy: but craue patience of God, while you are going to the diuell: Is not this a pittifull Case?

Mill. It is: but let the diuell seeke out his copesmates. I  
hans

## The Case is altered.

have nothing to doe with him, I desire him, and all his tricks, and so I hope doe you, God blesse vs from him.

Dal. Amen. For if there euer was such a Case, it was hel-  
lishly handled, that the Lawe could no better determine it, but  
that a knaue should so be the vndoing of an honest man: but,  
leauing moze to talke of these Cases, is it not a pittifull Case, to  
see a rich man, who in the shewe of the world hath bene repu-  
ted a man of honour, and good conscience, vpon the sodaine, ei-  
ther at a banquet, or vpon a bench of Authority fall sicke, so be  
caried home, there lie rauiug and crying out of the diuell, haue  
no mind of God, but onely calling for his kries, looke ouer his  
bagges, and curse euery one that comes at him, and like a dog,  
or a diuell, without the thought of Christianity, leauing his  
wealty to her knowes not whome, dies like a logge: and so is  
tumbled into the durt, with a number of teares, that he died no  
sooner: and he no sooner in his graue but his sonne hangs him-  
selfe, his daughters proue all whores, his seruants either begge  
or filch for their liuing, for want of other waies, or any thing  
left them by their wicked master: and thus vpon a sodaine is  
the fall of the whole house of wickednes: Is not this a pittifull  
Case, that the world should be so blinded with the outside of hy-  
pocrisie, to take such a Jew for a Christian?

Dal. Pitty yes, it is pittie, that euer he was begotten, that  
he died not in his birth, or that he should euer looke like a man,  
to be so inward with the diuell: but I hope there is no such man  
in this world. But tel me your opinion, in this Case: If a young  
wench that were of a pure complexion, and of good feature, wel  
thought off for her good behaviour, & with a litle wealt, might  
be a companion for an honest man, should, by falling into the  
company of some idle girles, learne to paint her selfe, and to  
make strange faces, with lering eyes, and mumping chappes,  
and flaxing smiles, after the whores fashion, to go w<sup>th</sup> smiles to  
an ill banquet, and so, continuing this ill course, both spoile her  
complexion, spill a good face, and become of the bea<sup>ut</sup>iful  
Whidwell, and so from one degree of shame to another, to de-  
struction in the end: Is it not a pittifull Case, that euer such idle

## The Case is altered.

swares should be brought into a common wealth, or ener such wickednes should be practised among honest people.

Mill. Yes, in truth is it : but what is the helpe : I knowe not : and therefore it is the more pittifull, that a mischief so to be pitied cannot be helped.

(ters.

Dal. When let it alone : and let vs talke of some other mat-

Mill. Content. But me thinks the day growes towards an end, the sunne is setting, and I haue a flart home : and hauing promised my wife to be at home, by fife of the clocke, I would be loth to bryake my word with her : for you know her humors, and hauing some of her countrie folkes come to see her, she meanes to bestow some good chere vpon them : and therefore if you dare venture a scolding sort with your woman, go along with me, and howsoeuer it will be hereafter, I dare warrant you a welcome : for she meanes to be merrie : the Capon and Goose are both kild.

Dal. But the Cander is left a line.

Mill. Yea she keeps him for waxe, to giue you a Colding.

Dal. Well said old wagge, I thinke I shall neuer die in the debt : and therefore since all woodcockes haue long bills, let vs take our flight together.

Mill. You say well : and since all Ases haue great heads, let none be ashamed of his long eares.

Dal. Good againe : And since all Goates haue beards, let them be knowne from sheepe.

Mill. A good per on you, for me, I hope there are none in my flocke.

Dal. If there be, remoue them, for they wil not doe well together : but looke you, who comes yonder :

Mill. It is my boy, his mother hath sent for me I must away, to morrow is market day, and if you wil, I will mate you here at this Dale, and we wil haue some talke of other matters.

Dal. Content, farewell : for though I say little, I know tis good to keep women in quiet, that is if bryake for a litle matter, especially if their husbands lye not at home : farewell.

Mill. Farewell.


with



## The Case is altered.

When they had thus ended their Cases, and given each o-  
ther a good night, and came home to their wiues in good time,  
that all things were quiet for that night, the next day about nine  
of the clock in the morning, according to promise they met at  
the place appointed, the great Wake, vnder which, when they  
had a little rested themselves, vpon their waking slaues, after  
a little exhorting salutations, with good morrow, and well met,  
and how doe you with all your household? well I thanke God,  
and I thanke you, and God hold it, and so forth: taking vp their  
ruggells, with come, goe, the morning goes away, and the  
market will be done, away they goe together, and being some  
foure or five miles to the towne, they fell into new matters, to  
talke vpon, which, if you wil tary, till they be written, as I haue  
heard them, true or false as they be you shall haue them, in the  
time, hoping you will haue patience with this, till you heare of  
what folloves, I will thus end.

A merry Case is wittifull:  
A wofull Case is pittifull.  
The wittifull doth breede but Iest:  
The pittifull, may breede vnest:  
Then leaue the last, and take the first:  
And take the best, and leaue the worst.



FINIS.